Good Farming News

By Jim Smith, County Agent

Bulk Milk Handling

Inteerst is keen for bulk milk tanks in Virginia. There are now around 700 farms with this type of equipment. Most of them are in northern Virginia, but dairymen in southwest Virginia and other areas are showing much interest.

Bulk milk handling is replacing the conventional milk can with refrigerated tanks on the farm and insulated tank trucks for collecting and hauling milk from producer to plant. It promises to become one of the most basic changes in the history of dairying.

In a recent U. S. Department of Agriculture study, it was found that producers receive an average of slightly over 12c per cwt. more for milk collected from refrigerated tanks than the average in their area for milk collected in conventional cans. Some of this came in the form of premiums offered for bulk milk, and may represent a subsidy from the plant to speed transition to the new system rather than actual economics thus far due to the changeover. However, the study concluded that bulk milk handling offers considerable promise of eventually increasing returns to the producer, the hauler, and the plant through lower costs, better milk quality, and expanded markets.

The survey indicated that bulk milk handling, like most other farm mechanization,lends greater economic advantage to larger volume operations. Among plants included in the survey, bulk shippers averaged 1,015 pounds per day, Grade A can shippers average 525 pounds, and ungraded can shippers average 210 pounds. A 300-gallon bulk tank was the most common-sized unit on the farms surveyed.

Only a little more than 10% of all bulk milk shippers surveyed were equipped with milking parlors and pipeline systems. Most had adapted their bulk tanks to conventional stanchion-type barns and machine-bucket milkers.

Winter Grazing

A winter grazing program will provide at least 60 days more grazing. One acre of a well-fertilized cover using small grain, rye grass, and crimson clover, will produce 600 to 800 pounds of protein and provide grazing for 5 to 6 cows per acre for several weeks.

Probably equally as important as the winter pasture angle is the reduction in the loss of paint food.

Unless soybeans are followed by a cover crop, about 2/3 of the nitrogen "fixed" by thees plants will be lost. This means wasting about 60 pounds, or about $10 worth, of commercial nitrogen for each acre left without cover.

Tests at Holland and at the former Wiliamsburg research station showed that a good growth of crimson turned under will produce as much corn as 100 pounds of pure nitrogen in the form of commercial fertilizer.

Peach Varieties

Peach orchards at V. P. I. now have about two dozen experimental varieties that show promise from the standpoint of frost-hardiness, disease resistance, fruit size, and other desirable characteristics.

Fruit breeding is a lengthy business, and it likely will be about five years before any of the V. P. I. varieties are ready for the fruit industry. But meanwhile fruit growers can view with hope several of the test varieties which came through with a full crop this year, while many of theold stand-bys have severely diminished yields because of the late March freeze.

Eventually, they hope to come up with a series of varieties which will ripen from 5 to 7 day intervals as long as six weeks before Elberta to as long as three weeks after.

Until the frost-resistant varieties are available, growers would do well to stick to those varieties which are now available and which apparently carry some resistance. Some of these which are producing good crops this year, are Dixi-red, Early Red Fire, Redhaven, Triogem, Halehaven, July Elberta, Summercrest, Skippers Late Red, and Rio Oso Gem. The Sunhigh variety, which bears outstandingly attractive fruit, is one of the most tender and should be planted many of the old stand-bys have seen moderation in areas where frost is a hazard. Elberta, a favorite of Virginia growers, also is very susceptible to frost, and J. H. Hale and Golden Jubilee are on the susceptible side.

ABSENCES DOUBLE-CHECKED

East Lansing, Mich.- Following several national reports of kidnaping and molesting of youngsters, teachers in the elementary schools here have devised a double-check plan on absentees. School personnel will call the pupil's home the first thing in the morning and right after lunch in cases of unexplained absences. This will be hard on hookey-players, also.

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DAIRY EQUIPMENT

SALE TO BE HELD AT EVERETT MOODY FARM ON U. S. HIGHWAY NO. 460, ABOUT TWO MILES WEST OF CONCORD, VIRGINIA, AND SIX MILES EAST OF LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA, NEAR OXFORD FURNACE, CAMPBELL COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

AT AUCTION

Thursday, Sept. 1st, 11 A. M.

LIST OF CATTLE AND DAIRY EQUIPMENT

44—Holstein Cows (Now Milking)
6—Dry Cows (to freshen in 60 days)
16—Holstein Heifers (8 springing, balance bred)
1—Large Hot Water Tank
1—Holstein Bull
1—3 Unit Surge Milker
1—8 Can Cooler
1—3 Section Wash Vat
1—Aereator
1—Can Rack
25—Milk Cans
1—9 Can Cooler

FOR INFORMATION CALL

HOPKINS BROTHERS
AUCTIONEERS
Lynchburg, Virginia — Dial 8-2839
OR
P. Brent Stratton
Concord,Virginia — Phone 3723

Richwood

Richwood, Aug. 22.- "A fool hath no delight in understanding; but that his heart may discover itself."
—Proverb.

Mr. Tom Marsh, who spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Marsh at Gladys, returned to his home at D. A. Pugh's, Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Woodall were the guests Saturday evening of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Pugh.

Mrs. Tom Paulett, who has been in a Lynchburg hospital, returned home Saturday.

Mrs. G. P. Brannan and daughters, Val and Georgie Belle were in Brookneal on business Friday and Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Marsh and children, of Lynchburg were the guests Sunday evening of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Pugh.

Mr. and Mrs. David Martin and little daughter spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Blazer and family.

Locust Grove

Locust Grove, Aug. 22.- Mrs. Alice Grow and Mrs. Mattie Coleman are spending several weeks in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Megginson.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Taylor and daughter, Margaret, of Ohio visited her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Beale last week. Others who visited in this home were Mr. and Mrs. James Beale and daughters Mary Ann and Karen, of Lynchburg, and Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Beale.

Mrs. Walker Beale spent last week-end in Clifton Forge.

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Beale, Mr. and Mrs. Walker Beale, Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Beale, and Misses Yvonne and Etta Beale attended the family reunion in Richmond in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Coleman. Others who also attended the reunion were Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Coleman, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Mead, of Manquin, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Carroll, of Manquin, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Patterson, Mr. Edward Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Green, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Weiss and family. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Grace and family, of Maryland; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Patterson, of Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Fern Dooly and family, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Garner and family, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Totty, of Wilson, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Parker and son, of Wilson, and Mr. Landon Coleman.

Nationalist China has been ed a $20,000,000 loan by the national Cooperation Adm as part of $103,500,000 in for "defense support."

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53 of a Series . . . . .

We Put Out the WELCOME MAT For

SCHOOL OPENING

When Appomattox County public schools open for the 1955-56 session, there will be two very significant changes:.

The newly completed Elementary School at Appomattox will be opened for use.

The Pamplin High School will be consolidated with the Appomattox High School.

These changes are guideposts along the march of progress of our community. Taken with the very excellent and modern Carver-Price School here, they mean that the Appomattox community will have three outstanding educational plants, and that our younger generation will not lack for the very latest and best in school opportunity. It means that our county will have over a million and a half dollars invested in capital outlay for the education of its children, proof of its desire to sacrifice to train tomorrow's citizens.

First—we want to hang out the "Welcome Sign" for the fine students from Pamplin High School. The Pamplin High School has a record of over forty years of public service, and has been a great asset to our county. The consolidation with A. H. S. will bring to our community a new bond of unity with our neighboring Town of Pamplin. Not only do we welcome the high school pupils from Pamplin, but we welcome the parents and families of that area to join with us in our various school and civic activities. Appomattox business men know full well the importance of the goodwill of the fine people in and around Pamplin and we want to serve you, and we want the students to feel "at home" at A. H. S. After all, A. H. S. is an Appomattox COUNTY school. So we say, "Welcome, Pamplin students!"

Second, we hope that parents will take advantage of the school opening to pay a visit to both the high schools here and the new elementary school. If you do, we believe that you will be proud of the educational opportunity here, and what you, as taxpayers, have done to promote better schools. And, we welcome the teachers and first classes to use the new facility.

School opening is one of the big events of any year. The business places listed on this page hope that 1955-56 will be a successful school year. We have three modern school plants in Appomattox, and they are turning out graduates who are better workers because of their education, and are the leaders in all phases of our business life. The better the school, the better the community, and "A Growing Town" is one which appreciates the value of its school.

School opening is "just around the corner." We say, a sincere welcome!

And we invite you to call on us for every possible business service.

This Community Message Sponsored by the following "Growing With Appomattox" firms and institutions, as a public service

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